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May 5, 2004

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Refunds - USPTO Deposit Accounts
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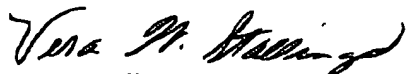
In checking our April 2004 deposit account statement, it appears our account has been charged in error as follows:

Date	Seq	Posting Ref Txt	Attorney Docket Nbr	Fee Code	Amt
04/23	3	09923523	604-3	1801	\$770.00

The published application referenced under the Posting Ref Txt is assigned to ARKRAY, INC. A copy of the cover page for the published application is attached.

We would appreciate your issuing a credit to our deposit account for \$770.00. Thank you for your assistance. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 281-834-5892.

Very truly yours,



Vera W. Stallings
Paralegal

cc: C. M. Fick

Adjustment date: 06/08/2004 EEKUBAY1
04/23/2004 KHASHING 00000003 051712 09923523
01 FC:1801 770.00 CR

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US 20010005488A1

(19) **United States**(12) **Patent Application Publication**

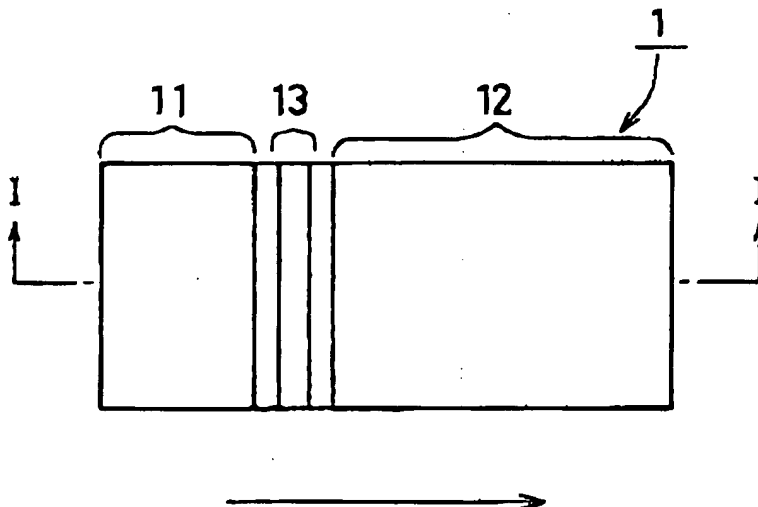
Hirao et al.

(10) Pub. No.: **US 2001/0005488 A1**(43) Pub. Date: **Jun. 28, 2001**(54) **BLOOD TESTING TOOL****Publication Classification**(75) Inventors: **Konumu Hirao, Kyoto (JP); Yuichiro Noda, Kyoto (JP); Yoshiyuki Tanaka, Kyoto (JP); Takatoshi Uchigaki, Kyoto (JP)**(51) Int. Cl.⁷ **G01N 31/22**(52) U.S. Cl. **422/58; 422/101**Correspondence Address:
**MERCHANT & GOULD
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MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402-0903 (US)**(57) **ABSTRACT**

A blood testing tool is provided, which separates blood cells and can collect blood plasma or blood serum with a high yield. The blood testing tool includes an asymmetric porous membrane with a pore size distribution in which an average pore size varies to be reduced continuously or discontinuously in a thickness direction. The porous membrane includes a blood supply portion, a development portion, and a blood-cell blocking portion formed between the blood supply portion and the development portion and pores in the blood cell blocking portion include only pores through which blood cells cannot pass. When blood is supplied to one side with larger pores of the blood supply portion, the blood moves in a direction parallel to a surface of the porous membrane by a capillary phenomenon, but only blood plasma or blood serum moves into the development portion to develop.

(73) Assignee: **ARKRAY, INC.**(21) Appl. No.: **09/748,435**(22) Filed: **Dec. 27, 2000**(30) **Foreign Application Priority Data**

Dec. 28, 1999 (JP) 11-374825
 Mar. 24, 2000 (JP) 2000-084352
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